New Pensionary Benefit Scheme for Agricultural Workers

2679. SHRI K.M. KHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have launched a new pensionary benefit scheme for the welfare of the agricultural workers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and how the agricultural workers have access to this pension scheme; and

(c) how many agricultural workers are rely to be covered under the scheme in its first phase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) A new social security scheme namely 'Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana—2001' has been launched for the agricultural workers. The scheme which is being implemented by the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), *interalia*, includes pension benefits upon surviving upto the age of 60 years. The amount of pension ranges from Rs. 100/- to Rs. 1900/- depending on the age of entry to the scheme. Agricultural workers in the age group of 18 to 50 years are eligible under the Scheme. The worker will pay Re. 1/- per day or Rs. 365/- per year and the Government will pay Rs. 2/- per day or Rs. 730/- per year per beneficiary. It is proposed to cover 10 lakh agricultural workers in 50 districts during a span of three years in the first phase.

Medical Facilities for Beedi Workers

2680. DR. SWAMI SAKSHI JI MAHARAJ : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the medical facilities for Beedi workers in the country;

(b) the hospitals for beedi workers which are functioning satisfactorily;

(c) the hospitals which are facing problems of shortage of medicine and staff;

(d) the hospitals which are plagued with the problems of diversion of medicines; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken in the above matters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Statement is annexed. (*See* below).

(b) All the four hospitals are functioning satisfactorily.